

## SIDELIGHTS ON THE WAR

### Scenes on Battlefield Show What War Means.

#### Russian and English Armies Have Greatest Number of Veterans.

The German army is admitted by the nations to be a marvel of organization and training, and one that is important when it comes to the actual work of war, the other nations have the advantage of the Kaiser's army.

They have troops that have seen actual service in the field, while Germany has practically none that had received a baptism of fire up to the present war.

The Russians, thanks to the war with Japan, now lined up on the same side with them, have more veterans who have been through modern warfare than any other European country. In the battle of Mukden alone Russia had 310,000 men, and the armies in Manchuria had a thorough seasoning in terrific fighting. The Russian soldiers showed stubborn courage, and it was not their fault that the Czar's forces were defeated.

As only eight years have elapsed since the Russo-Japanese war, the Russians have many of these veterans to give fire to the inexperienced troops.

Great Britain is also well supplied with veterans. In the Boer war England placed a million men in the field, and the greater part of the survivors are still available.

Besides this, Tommy Atkins has seen service in many lands. As Kipling sang:

"We fought with many men across the seas.

An' some of them was brave an' some was not;

The Paythee and the Zulu and Burmesee;

But the Fuzzy was the finest of the lot."

On the barren veldt of the Transvaal, on the deserts of Africa, in the jungles of India, and in the fastnesses of the Punjab, the British soldier, starved, burned, frozen and fought.

Some of them followed Kitchener in the Sudan, others went with "Old Bob" from Kabul to Kandahar, and they got plenty of real practice in the art of war.

Of all the armies of Europe the best seasoned are those of Serbia and Montenegro, veterans of two bloody wars just fought.

France is not particularly well supplied with seasoned troops, but she has had 70,000 soldiers in service in North Africa, where they met with trying conditions and fighting that was enough to temper them.

Germany, however, has had little work for its army, its fighting heretofore being limited to the Southwest African campaign of 1903-05, in which it had as many as 20,000 troops engaged. The German army is intensely cultivated, and there is no doubt of its valor.

Austria has not been at war since it was defeated by Prussia in 1866.

#### Scenes After Battle of Diest.

Graphic description of the battle field of Diest, Belgium, was sent the New York Tribune by a correspondent. It gives that side of the war which is so different from the pomp and glory. Of the burial of the victims of the battle, he says:

Across the battlefield of Diest there is a brown stretch of harrowed ground half a furlong in length. It is the grave of 1,200 Germans who fell in the fight of Wednesday. All over the field there are other graves, some of Germans, some of Belgians, some of horses. When I reached the place this afternoon peasants with long mattocks and spades were turning in the soil. For full two days they had been at the work of burial, and they were sick at heart. Their corn is ripe for cutting in the battlefield, but little of it will be harvested. Dark paths in their turnip fields are sodden with the blood of men and horses.

There were most dead on the side of the bridge. The charge of 300 Uh-lans, who were held in check for a short time by the Belgians at a corner, seems to have come near success. The dorellet helmets and lances that covered the fields show that the charge pressed well up to the guns and to the trenches in the turnip-field. On the German left mitrailleuses got in their work behind, and in the houses on the outskirts of the villages. Five of these houses are burn-

ed to the ground, and two others farther out are broken all to pieces and burned.

It would be easy now, at the beginning of this war, to write of its tragedy. The villagers have each a tale of loss to tell. All of the 1,200 men in the long grave were men with wives, sweethearts and parents. All the Belgian soldiers and others who were buried where they fell have mourners.

A letter which I picked up on the field and am endeavoring to have identified and sent her for whom it is intended will speak for all. It is written in ink on half a sheet of thin note paper. There is no date and no place. It probably was written on the eve of battle in the hope that it would reach its destination if the writer died. This is the translation.

"Sweetheart: Fate in this present war has treated us more cruelly than many others. If I have not lived to create for you the happiness of which both our hearts dreamed, remember my sole wish now is that you should be happy. Forget me and create for yourself some happy home that may restore to you some of the greater pleasures of life. For myself, I shall have died happy in the thought of your love. My last thought has been for you and for those I leave at home. Accept this, the last kiss, from him who loved you."

Postcards from fathers with blessings to their gallant sons I found, too, on the field, little mementoes of peoples and of places carried by men as mascots. Everywhere were broken lances of German and Belgian, side by side; scabbards and helmets, saddles and guns. These the peasants were collecting in a pile, to be removed by the military. High up over the graves of 1,200, as we stood there, a German biplane came and went, hovering like a carrion-crow, seeking other victims for death.

#### Will Paris Eat Auto Tires.

Even a war produced its jokes. Here is one that is reminiscent of the siege of Paris in the war of 1870, when horsesteaks became the favorite Parisian delicacy:

An English farmer was recently arguing with a French chauffeur, who had slackened up at an inn regarding the merits of the horse and the motor car.

"Give me a 'orse," remarked the farmer; "them traveling oil-shops is too uncertain fer my likin'."

"Eet is prejudice, my friend," the chauffeur replied; "you English are behind ze times; you will think dee-fairment some day."

"Behind the time be blowed!" came the retort. "Pr'aps nex' time the Proosians are rund Paris and you have to git your dinner off a steak from the 'ind wheel of a motor car, you Frenchmen'll wish you wasn't so bloomin' well up-to-date!"

#### Amiens Figured in Many Wars.

The city of Amiens—pronounced Om-i-on—near which desperate fighting is going on, is the capital of the Department of Somme. It is situated on the left bank of the River Somme, and is an important garrison town. It is the headquarters of the Second army corps, the troops

quartered there being the Seventy-second line and Eighth chasseurs a pied regiment, the Nineteenth chasseurs a cheval, legion of gendarmes and the entire staff of the Second army corps, including commissary sanitary and quartermaster troops.

Amiens occupies the site of the ancient town of Samarobiva, the capital of the Ambians, who were conquered by Caesar. Christianity was introduced there in the fourth century by Bishop Firman. During the middle ages its territory formed the courtship of Amienois. In the twelfth century the citizens gained enfranchisement. In 1115 the city became a dependency of the French crown, when Philip of Alsace, Count of Flanders, ceded it to Philip Augustus.

The city has more than once passed out of power of the French. In 1435 by the treaty of Arras, it came into the possession of Burgundy, who held it until 1477.

The Spaniards surprised the city in 1597, and the French besieged it. Henry IV. finally recapturing it after a long siege. Until 1790 Amiens was the capital of Picardy. The treaty of Amiens, between Great Britain, France, Spain and Holland, was signed in the Hotel de Ville March 25, 1802. During the Franco-Prussian war Amiens fell before the invaders, November 28, 1870.

The city has a population of 80,000. It is a manufacturing place of some importance, the principal industries being velvet, cotton, wool, silk, hemp and flax spinning. Manufactures of machinery, chemicals, blacking, polish and sugar, and printing, dyeing and iron founding, are also carried on. It is also known for its pastry.

It is the seat of a bishop, a perfect, a court of appeal and a court of assizes. The educational institutions include lycées, training schools, a school of medicines and textile

The Cathedral of Amiens is considered one of the finest churches of Gothic architecture in France. It was erected in 1220. The central portal has a remarkable statue of Christ dating from the thirteenth century. There is also in the city a rich library and fine collections of paintings, sculptures and antiquities in the Museum of Picardy.

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#### Throwing \$50,000,000 Away.

For the United States the first lesson of the war is that it must not abandon the sound Protective policy which is designed to make it sufficient unto itself.

The Tariff policy of the United States is based on the supposition that there is always to be peace and that the avenues of trade are to be continually open. But war has come, interrupting all commerce with Europe. It has deprived our manufacturers of material without which they cannot operate. Some have already closed and others must shut down unless a way is found to obtain the needed materials.

The Democrats at Washington should come to their senses in time to prevent further disaster. If they cannot reverse themselves on the question of principle they can easily turn about face on the question of policy. The country is confronted with a serious falling off in the revenues from the Tariff because of the cessation of imports. Sugar, however, is obtainable from countries with which trade can be maintained. If only for the purpose of conserving the revenues, therefore, the sugar duties should be restored at once.

If this is done, the revenue of \$50,000,000 produced will cover nearly 50 per cent of the apprehended deficit. Moreover, a Protective and revenue-producing Tariff on sugar will preserve the prosperous cane industry of Louisiana and will encourage growers to continue to produce their profitable crop for the supply of the home market.—Providence Tribune.

#### Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

"I advised the 'boys' when they enlisted for the Spanish war to take Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with them, and have received many thanks for the advice given," writes J. H. Houghland, Eldon, Iowa. "No person whether traveling or at home should be without this great remedy." For sale by all Dealers.

## THE REASON FOR RESTORING SUGAR DUTY

### Would Increase Domestic Production and Save Consumers \$100,000,000 a Year.

The advancing prices of sugar and the world's short supply demonstrate that those who have persistently advocated the building up of a big sugar industry in this country have taken the right position. Protection to sugar, they have said, was not simply a benefit to the growers by enabling them to develop this industry, but it was a safeguard to the nation, and its full development would save the \$100,000,000 or more which the nation annually pays to foreign countries for sugar.

At the present price of sugar, with England buying all available stock and with France and Germany practically cut out as beet-sugar producers, it is altogether probable that we shall have to pay possibly twice as much for our sugar as in recent years, and the nation may in the next twelve months have to send to foreign lands \$200,000,000 instead of \$100,000,000 for sugar.

If there had been an absolutely fixed policy making safe a Protective tariff to American sugar interests, it would have been possible to bring about a far larger development of this industry in the United States than we have had. But with politicians constantly fighting the sugar Tariff, capitalists have hesitated about going largely into the business, and the result is we are still dependent upon other lands for the bulk of our sugar. The higher prices of the next twelve months or more will probably cost the nation far more than it would have cost to maintain a Protective Tariff to a point which would have justified the largest development of cane and beet sugar growing to the benefit of farmers and to every other interest in the country. With the certainty of a very large shortage in import duties and the necessity of raising more revenue, it would seem to be a propitious time to restore the tax on sugar, and do it in such a way that cane and beet growers would know that for a long term of years they had a certainty of a Protection which would justify going largely into the business. The duty on sugar produced a very large revenue which the Government needed and which it now sadly needs. If the men who are controlling legislation are willing to admit the error that they made in removing the sugar duty, it might be possible to restore this and again revive this industry.

If this war teaches anything, it teaches the folly of an economic system which has made us dependent upon foreign countries for our sugar and our shipping and for many of the things which could have been made at home had there been a certainty of a fair measure of protection. The nation is paying a fearful penalty for the uneconomic policy which has left us without a merchant marine, which has put the cotton growers and the wheat growers of the country at the mercy of the present situation by reason of the shortage of shipping. It has almost destroyed the sugar industry and has prevented the development of many industries for whose products we now annually pay hundreds of dollars to foreign lands when we ought to be producing them at home. It is about time for the people at large, as well as for men in public life, to be doing some serious thinking and to admit the error of their economic views, for these economic views have already cost this country many millions of dollars and are liable to cost it many hundreds of millions during the present war.

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it gave pleasure and relief, aid to the suffering and distressed, or wrought evil or disgrace to the careless spender; where it will yet go before it is considered too old for further service and sent to the treasury, to be passed on to the macerating machine and dissolved into gray pulp! All that lies between its beginning and end is a sealed book to us; but there is One who knows its future. Like the talent of old, it is capable of many values. What is its mission now?

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